

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MAPUTO 00263 021653Z

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 L-03 H-02 SSO-00 /016 W

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R 021300Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4431

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MAPUTO 0263

FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT ACTION PRETORIA ON 16 MAR REPEATED
FOR YOUR INFO QUOTE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, MZ

SUBJECT MESSAGE TO MRS EVELYN FRIBERG

REQUEST EMBASSY PASS FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM AMBASSADOR DE PREE
TO MRS. EVELYN FRIBERG, WIFE OF DETAINED AMERICAN MISSIONARY
HUGHLON FRIBERG, RESIDENT IN PRETORIA
QUOTE: DEAR MRS. FRIBERG:

I ARRIVED IN MAPUTO ON MARCH 10 AND WOULD LIKE TO ASSURE YOU
THAT I INTEND TO DO EVERYTHING I CAN TO EFFECT THE EARLY RE-
LEASE OF YOUR HUSBAND AND OF MR. DOLL AND MR. MILAM.

SINCE I HAVE NOT YET PRESENTED MY CREDENTIALS TO THE GOVERNMENT
OF MOZAMBIQUE, I HAVE NOT HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE MATTER
WITH MOZAMBIQUE GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS. I HAVE, HOWEVER BEEN
BROUGHT UP-TO-DATE BY MY STAFF. WE ARE TOLD BY VISITORS TO THE
MISSIONARIES THAT THE PHYSICAL CONDITION OF YOUR HUSBAND AND MR.
DOLL AND MR. MILAM IS GOOD. FRIENDS, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE
EMBASSY STAFF, CONTINUE TO BRING FOOD TO SUPPLEMENT THEIR PRISON
DIET.

AS YOU KNOW, NATIONALS OF A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES ARE BEING DETAINED.
THE CONCERN OF OTHER DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS, AS WELL AS OUR OWN, HAS
PROMPTED THE DEAN OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS, ON BEHALF OF THE CORPS,
TO REQUEST THE GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE AS A PRIORITY MATTER TO GRANT
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PAGE 02 MAPUTO 00263 021653Z

CONSULAR ACCESS TO THE PRISONERS. THIS REQUEST IN THE FORM OF
A DIPLOMATIC NOTE WAS PRESENTED TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE

ONLY WITHIN THE PAST WEEK. THE GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE HAS NOT YET RESPONDED TO THIS INITIATIVE. I WOULD LIKE YOU TO KEEP THIS INFORMATION CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL WE RECEIVE THE GOVERNMENT'S REPLY.

I HAVE TALKED TO MR. JERALD JOHNSON OF YOUR CHURCH, REGARDING NOT ONLY THE CONDITION OF THE MISSIONARIES AND DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS BEING MADE ON THEIR BEHALF, BUT ALSO ABOUT COURSES OF ACTION THAT COULD BE TAKEN, NOT ONLY BY US, BUT BY THE CHURCH. YESTERDAY, HE SENT A CABLE ASKING MY ADVICE REGARDING A MESSAGE FROM YOU TO FOREIGN MINISTER JOAQUIM CHISSANO WHILE HE IS IN NEW YORK, AND ABOUT THE ADVISABILITY OF A MASSIVE LETTER AND TELEGRAM CAMPAIGN BY THE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE.

I SAID THAT I THOUGHT A COMPASSIONATE TELEGRAM FROM YOU WOULD BE IN ORDER, BUT I DID NOT THINK A MASSIVE CAMPAIGN BY THE CHURCH AT THIS TIME WOULD PRODUCE THE RESULTS WHICH WE SEEK AND, IN FACT, MAY WELL PRODUCE THE OPPOSITE EFFECT. I THINK IT IS BETTER AT THIS TIME TO VIGOROUSLY PURSUE THE DIPLOMATIC INITIATIVES ALREADY UNDERWAY. I ASSURE YOU THAT I INTEND TO DO THAT.

I SHALL KEEP YOU INFORMED, THROUGH THE EMBASSY IN PRETORIA OF OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS. I SINCERELY HOPE WE WILL HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR YOU SOON.

SINCERELY, WILLARD, A. DE PREE, AMBASSADOR
END QUOTE
DE PREE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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TAGS: CASC, MZ, (FRIBERG, EVELYN), (FRIBERG, HOUGHLON)
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